

S 4205-1

Minnesota Labor Market Review

November 1990

Nation 

State 

By Don Hilber

Stagflation Hits Economy as Both Unemployment Rate and Inflation Keep Rising

The nation's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate rose for the third consecutive month to 5.7% in September. The direction is more troublesome than the level. For most of the last decade, until March of 1988 in fact, the unemployment rate was not lower than it is now. But not since autumn of 1982, when the economy was mired in recession, has there been such a long string of increases. Furthermore, the average length of unemployment, the share of unemployment attributable to job loss and the number of involuntary part-time workers are all on the rise.

Three straight months of declining employment is directly responsible. In most industries, jobs are either decreasing or at a standstill. Manufacturing and construction shed workers again in September, continuing a trend begun this spring. Government, trade and financial services also lost jobs. The only industries of any size adding workers in the past year are transportation, health services and local government.

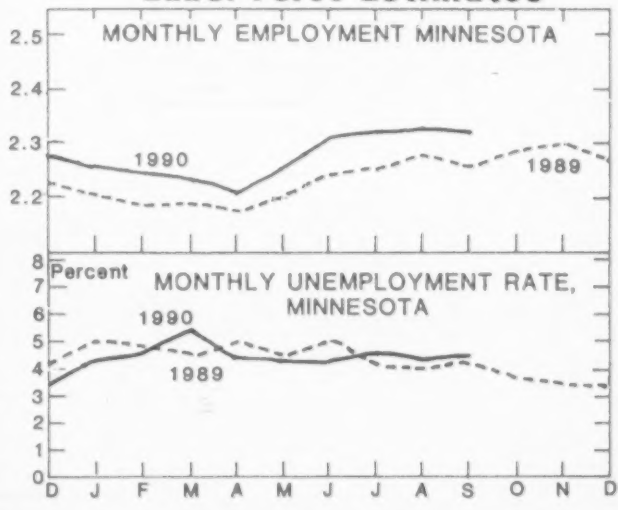
Meanwhile, inflation continues to go up. Consumer prices in September were 6.2% higher than a year ago. Back in May they were only 4.4% higher. The last time inflation was above the six percent threshold was over eight years ago. Now as then, energy prices were the major factor.

Job Growth Slows Without Big Effect on Unemployment Rate

With three months left in 1990, it appears that Minnesota's unemployment rate for the year will not be much different from 1989's. The unemployment rate rose to 4.5% in September from 4.3% in August, but the rise was typical for that time of year. Over the first nine months of 1990, the unemployment rate averaged 4.6%, identical to the same period last year.

Weakness in the U.S. economy is also evident in Minnesota, with annual job growth in both areas at 1.6%. The gain in jobs between August and September was the lowest seen between those two months in the past ten years. Large drops in construction, trade and financial services employment countered other gains and accounted for most of the slowdown. Manufacturing also lost jobs. After seasonal adjustments, only services and government added workers, the former at a slower rate than earlier this year. While nearly 33,000 jobs have been added since September of 1989, most of that growth happened last fall and winter, and all of it came in the services-producing sector.

Labor Force Estimates



	Minnesota			United States		
	Sep 90	Aug 90	Sep 89	Sep 90	Aug 90	Sep 89
Labor Force	2,428.3	2,430.4	2,359.1	124,779	126,012	123,828
Employment	2,317.8	2,324.9	2,260.6	117,961	119,174	117,498
Unemployment	110.5	105.5	98.4	6,818	6,837	6,330
Act. Unemp. Rt.	4.5	4.3	4.2	5.5	5.4	5.1
S.A. Unemp. Rt.	-	-	-	5.7	5.6	5.3

Minnesota Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment, Hours & Earnings

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT 1/ (thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE FROM		PRODUCTION WORKERS' HOURS & EARNINGS 2/					
						Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Sep. 1989
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	2,152.1	2,139.5	2,119.2	0.6	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goods Producing	502.8	507.0	506.5	-0.8	-0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mining	8.7	8.8	8.1	-0.9	7.7	632.45	601.97	43.2	44.1	14.64	13.65
Metal Mining	6.6	6.6	6.0	-0.2	9.7	649.40	614.11	42.5	43.4	15.28	14.15
Construction	91.1	92.7	90.8	-1.8	0.2	709.62	686.32	42.8	41.9	16.58	16.38
Manufacturing	403.0	405.5	407.6	-0.6	-1.1	464.63	455.54	41.3	41.3	11.25	11.03
Durable Goods	231.2	232.6	236.7	-0.6	-2.3	473.39	468.65	41.2	41.4	11.49	11.32
Lumber and Furniture	23.9	24.3	23.1	-1.6	3.5	506.05	491.72	38.6	38.0	13.11	12.94
Stone, Clay and Glass	9.4	9.5	9.7	-1.7	-3.5	519.16	477.40	43.7	43.4	11.88	11.00
Primary Metals	6.4	6.5	6.6	-1.4	-3.3	478.55	464.58	42.2	42.7	11.34	10.88
Fabricated Metals	34.5	34.7	35.6	-0.3	-2.9	482.98	486.57	41.6	42.2	11.61	11.53
Industrial Machinery	78.4	78.8	83.3	-0.5	-5.9	493.07	496.58	41.4	41.8	11.91	11.88
Office and Computing	34.6	34.8	38.3	-0.6	-9.7	513.75	516.18	43.1	42.0	11.92	12.29
Electronic Equipment	28.5	28.4	28.2	0.2	1.1	403.79	401.86	41.8	41.6	9.66	9.66
Transportation Equipment	11.9	12.2	11.9	-2.7	0.2	464.51	487.77	39.1	42.6	11.88	11.45
Instruments and Related	32.3	32.3	32.7	0.1	-1.2	458.82	429.53	42.8	41.5	10.72	10.35
Misc. Manufacturing	5.9	5.8	5.6	0.6	4.2	410.72	424.27	38.1	38.5	10.78	11.02
Nondurable Goods	171.8	173.0	170.9	-0.7	0.6	455.26	439.77	41.5	41.1	10.97	10.70
Food & Beverage Products	52.1	52.3	53.3	-0.5	-2.3	409.84	401.69	43.6	43.1	9.40	9.32
Textiles & Apparel	4.9	4.9	5.3	-0.9	-9.1	307.35	300.53	37.3	39.7	8.24	7.57
Paper Products	33.9	34.3	33.4	-1.3	1.4	584.16	579.48	43.4	43.9	13.46	13.20
Printing and Publishing	52.5	52.7	50.2	-0.3	4.6	448.13	432.81	38.9	37.8	11.52	11.45
Chemicals and Petroleum	11.9	12.0	11.8	-1.0	0.7	575.29	524.99	41.9	41.6	13.73	12.62
Rubber and Plastic	16.6	16.8	16.8	-0.9	-1.2	395.97	376.27	40.2	39.4	9.85	9.55
Service Producing	1,649.3	1,632.5	1,612.7	1.0	2.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transp., Comm., & Util.	110.5	108.2	107.4	2.1	2.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation	75.5	73.2	71.9	3.2	5.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trucking & Warehousing	28.4	28.5	28.0	-0.2	1.6	437.37	438.55	35.3	35.0	12.39	12.53
Communication & Utilities	34.9	35.0	35.5	-0.2	-1.7	621.72	579.12	39.6	38.1	15.70	15.20
Trade	531.3	534.3	526.7	-0.6	0.9	244.73	238.95	29.7	29.5	8.24	8.10
Wholesale	130.9	132.7	128.3	-1.4	2.0	429.01	415.04	38.1	37.8	11.26	10.98
Retail	400.4	401.6	398.3	-0.3	-0.5	190.40	186.57	27.2	27.0	7.00	6.91
Building Materials	18.6	18.8	18.8	-1.1	-0.8	338.58	336.27	38.0	38.3	8.91	8.78
General Merchandise	59.0	58.9	59.2	0.1	0.5	189.69	179.32	26.2	25.4	7.24	7.06
Food Stores	55.8	55.9	53.8	-0.1	3.8	200.10	192.08	27.6	28.0	7.25	6.86
Automotive	44.4	44.5	43.2	-0.4	2.6	299.98	301.54	34.8	34.7	8.62	8.69
Apparel	20.1	20.3	20.1	-0.8	0.1	294.48	291.15	36.4	35.9	8.09	8.11
Home Furnishings	16.4	16.4	16.4	0.1	-0.2	289.01	286.84	31.9	31.8	9.06	9.02
Eating and Drinking	135.7	136.7	136.4	-0.7	-0.5	119.14	116.45	23.0	22.7	5.18	5.13
Fin., Insur., Real Estate	123.8	124.8	121.5	-0.8	1.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance	55.9	56.2	55.2	-0.4	1.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	46.6	47.2	45.4	-1.2	2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Real Estate	21.3	21.5	21.0	-0.9	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services	564.5	561.7	546.0	0.5	3.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Personal Services	25.5	24.7	24.7	3.3	3.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Business Services	100.7	100.4	97.6	0.3	3.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repair Services	23.3	23.3	22.7	0.1	2.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health Services	167.4	168.0	162.4	-0.3	3.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nursing Homes	43.9	44.3	43.0	-0.7	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospitals	55.7	55.9	54.3	-0.5	2.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legal Services	15.9	15.8	15.6	0.5	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Private Education	27.2	23.4	26.9	16.0	0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Government	319.3	303.4	311.1	5.2	2.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Federal	34.5	35.0	34.6	-1.2	-0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
State	76.1	72.6	75.1	4.7	1.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education	38.8	35.1	38.6	10.5	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local	208.7	195.9	201.4	6.5	3.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education	103.7	87.2	99.9	18.9	3.8	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note: Not all industry sub-groups are shown for every major industry category.

1/ Totals may not add because of rounding.

2/ Average earnings data are on a "gross" basis and are derived from reports of payroll for full-time and part-time production or non-supervisory workers. The payroll is reported before deductions of any kind. Bonuses, retroactive pay, tips, payment in kind, and "fringe benefits" are excluded.

Minneapolis-St. Paul MSA



By Bruce Steuermagel

Unemployment Rate Rises

The Twin Cities metropolitan area unemployment rate in September was 4.4%, an increase of 0.3 of a percentage point from August. The average August to September change in the past decade was an increase of 0.2 of a percentage point. As has been the case throughout 1990, the Twin Cities labor force continues to show strong growth. In September, the local labor force was 2.2% above a year ago compared with an increase of 0.8% in the Nation. While employment, as measured by the count of employed residents, is expanding more rapidly in the Twin Cities than nationally, 1.7% compared to 0.4%, the local economy is not growing rapidly enough to absorb the growing labor force. Consequently, the number of unemployed workers in the Twin Cities has been increasing rapidly in recent months.

Payroll Employment Signals Spreading Slowdown

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the total

number of nonfarm payroll jobs in Twin Cities area establishments dropped in September. Revised August estimates also showed a decrease. Seasonal adjustment is a statistical technique used to eliminate the effect of regular events, such as winter, the school calendar, or holiday shopping, on employment in order to isolate the month to month change in employment which is due to economic factors. Data in the table on the following page are not seasonally adjusted. The slowdown in job growth has spread from construction and manufacturing, which have been declining for the past seven months, to include retail trade and services. Retail trade jobs on a seasonally adjusted basis have slipped the past two months, while financial services dropped in September and other service industries have remained flat the past two months. The lack of growth in services the past two months stands in stark contrast to average monthly increases of 1,765 during 1989. Preliminary September estimates showed a strong growth in government employment, predominantly local public education.

LABOR FORCE DATA									
	Employment			Unemployment			Unemp. Rate		
	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989
Mpls-St. Paul	1,372,931	1,387,775	1,349,527	63,595	59,309	55,583	4.4	4.1	4.0
REGION 11	1,288,566	1,302,868	1,266,127	59,852	55,812	52,540	4.4	4.1	4.0
Anoka	132,523	133,994	130,215	7,023	6,415	5,830	5.0	4.6	4.3
Carver	24,693	24,967	24,263	1,048	949	971	4.1	3.7	3.8
Dakota	145,125	146,736	142,598	6,269	5,657	5,568	4.1	3.7	3.8
Hennepin	609,696	616,463	599,079	28,726	27,085	25,332	4.5	4.2	4.1
Ramsey	272,648	275,674	267,900	12,414	11,729	10,996	4.4	4.1	3.9
Scott	29,195	29,519	28,687	1,311	1,250	1,243	4.3	4.1	4.2
Washington	74,686	75,515	73,385	3,061	2,727	2,600	3.9	3.5	3.4
Chisago	14,247	14,405	13,999	828	782	659	5.5	5.1	4.5
Isanti	12,063	12,197	11,853	683	600	592	5.4	4.7	4.8
Wright	32,996	33,362	32,421	1,652	1,486	1,300	4.8	4.3	3.9
St. Croix, WI	25,059	24,943	25,127	582	632	493	2.3	2.5	1.9
Bloomington	57,159	57,793	56,164	2,692	2,406	2,445	4.5	4.0	4.2
Minneapolis	201,066	203,297	197,564	10,794	9,066	9,434	5.1	4.3	4.6
St. Paul	140,577	142,138	138,129	7,557	6,627	6,598	5.1	4.5	4.6

Mpls.-St. Paul Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment, Hours & Earnings

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT 1/ (thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE FROM		PRODUCTION WORKERS' HOURS & EARNINGS 2/					
	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
						Sep. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Sep. 1989
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	1,384.8	1,379.5	1,365.9	0.4	1.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goods Producing	317.8	320.9	323.7	-1.0	-1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mining	0.5	0.5	0.7	-1.9	-27.9	805.20	709.92	47.9	46.9	16.81	15.30
Construction	56.8	57.9	57.8	-1.9	-1.6	762.72	746.72	42.0	41.6	18.16	17.95
Manufacturing	260.5	262.5	265.3	-0.8	-1.8	491.56	479.64	41.1	41.1	11.96	11.67
Durable Goods	156.2	156.9	162.3	-0.5	-3.8	498.13	484.92	41.1	41.2	12.12	11.77
Lumber and Furniture	10.1	10.3	9.5	-2.2	6.1	574.16	554.20	38.9	38.3	14.76	14.47
Stone, Clay and Glass	3.3	3.4	3.3	-3.1	0.9	543.65	498.19	41.5	41.9	13.10	11.89
Primary Metals	4.6	4.6	4.6	-0.7	-1.9	471.22	445.30	42.3	42.9	11.14	10.38
Fabricated Metals	25.7	25.7	27.0	0.1	-4.7	494.43	490.12	41.1	41.5	12.03	11.81
Industrial Machinery	55.5	55.8	60.7	-0.4	-8.6	528.96	534.96	41.1	42.9	12.87	12.47
Office and Computing	22.9	23.0	27.1	-0.7	-15.7	609.33	602.94	42.7	45.3	14.27	13.31
Electronic Equipment	18.1	18.0	18.0	0.5	0.5	403.81	371.91	40.3	38.7	10.02	9.61
Transportation Equipment	5.6	5.8	5.8	-3.3	-2.1	587.04	577.58	38.8	37.8	15.13	15.28
Instruments and Related	29.4	29.4	29.7	0.1	-1.0	475.87	448.51	43.3	41.8	10.99	10.73
Misc. Manufacturing	3.9	4.0	3.7	-1.8	5.8	466.05	458.57	39.0	38.6	11.95	11.88
Nondurable Goods	104.3	105.5	103.0	-1.2	1.2	482.51	472.73	41.1	41.0	11.74	11.53
Food & Beverage Products	17.4	17.8	17.8	-2.4	-2.2	515.28	518.02	45.2	45.6	11.40	11.36
Paper Products	25.9	26.2	25.6	-1.3	1.0	506.27	504.11	41.6	41.8	12.17	12.06
Printing and Publishing	37.4	37.6	35.6	-0.5	5.2	460.59	455.07	39.4	38.5	11.69	11.82
Chemicals and Petroleum	10.3	10.4	9.9	-1.2	3.8	628.97	579.44	42.7	41.3	14.73	14.03
Rubber and Plastic	11.3	11.3	11.4	-0.5	-1.2	399.50	386.89	38.9	39.6	10.27	9.77
Service Producing	1,067.0	1,058.7	1,042.2	0.8	2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transp., Comm., & Util.	79.2	77.3	75.6	2.4	4.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation	57.3	55.4	53.3	3.5	7.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trucking & Warehousing	18.1	18.2	17.6	-0.4	2.9	430.99	402.21	32.9	31.3	13.10	12.85
Communication & Utilities	21.9	22.0	22.3	-0.3	-1.6	606.34	563.22	38.4	37.8	15.79	14.90
Trade	339.3	340.5	336.0	-0.3	1.0	277.22	268.50	30.1	29.9	9.21	8.98
Wholesale	89.3	90.1	87.0	-0.8	2.6	476.45	452.78	38.3	37.7	12.44	12.01
Retail	250.0	250.4	249.0	-0.2	0.4	214.50	209.34	27.5	27.4	7.80	7.64
Building Materials	10.4	10.6	10.9	-1.9	-4.6	422.45	390.63	38.9	38.6	10.86	10.12
General Merchandise	42.1	41.9	42.3	0.5	-0.6	204.62	194.82	26.1	25.6	7.84	7.61
Food Stores	29.8	29.9	28.9	-0.1	3.2	260.55	256.58	28.6	29.8	9.11	8.61
Automotive	25.6	25.8	25.4	-0.6	0.8	353.13	327.71	36.9	34.9	9.57	9.39
Apparel	13.8	13.8	25.4	-0.6	2.8	359.81	334.14	38.4	36.8	9.37	9.08
Home Furnishings	11.8	11.8	11.7	0.1	1.2	349.54	307.27	33.1	31.1	10.56	9.88
Eating and Drinking	84.9	85.3	85.4	-0.5	-0.6	127.91	131.65	22.8	23.3	5.61	5.65
Fin., Insur., Real Estate	95.0	95.9	93.6	-0.9	1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance	40.3	40.5	39.8	-0.4	1.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	37.7	38.3	37.1	-1.5	1.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Real Estate	17.0	17.2	16.8	-0.8	1.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services	377.2	374.9	365.5	0.6	3.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Personal Services	18.3	17.7	17.7	3.1	3.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Business Services	85.0	84.6	83.4	0.5	1.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repair Services	17.6	17.5	17.2	0.1	2.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health Services	95.0	95.1	91.0	-0.1	4.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nursing Homes	23.1	23.3	22.4	-0.5	3.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospitals	33.1	33.2	31.9	-0.2	3.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legal Services	12.8	12.7	12.5	0.7	2.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Private Education	14.6	12.3	15.0	18.7	-2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Government	176.3	170.2	171.4	3.6	2.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Federal	20.8	21.0	20.7	-1.1	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
State	49.5	48.8	49.0	1.5	1.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education	25.7	24.9	25.6	3.1	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local	106.0	100.4	101.7	5.6	4.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education	54.1	47.3	51.8	14.4	4.5	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note: Not all industry sub-groups are shown for every major industry category.

1/ Totals may not add because of rounding.

2/ Average earnings data are on a "gross" basis and are derived from reports of payroll for full-time and part-time production or non-supervisory workers. The payroll is reported before deductions of any kind. Bonuses, retroactive pay, tips, payment in kind, and "fringe benefits" are excluded.

Central and Northwest Minnesota



LABOR FORCE DATA

By Ron Daws

	Employment			Unemployment			Unemp. Rate		
	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989
St. Cloud	99,241	97,627	92,616	5,122	4,964	3,867	4.9	4.8	4.0
REGION 1	41,742	40,334	40,327	2,509	2,785	2,343	5.7	6.5	5.5
Kittson	2,381	2,270	2,335	157	265	139	6.2	10.5	5.6
Marshall	4,501	4,287	4,455	401	459	421	8.2	9.7	8.6
Norman	3,328	3,230	3,415	167	184	177	4.8	5.4	4.9
Pennington	6,888	6,823	6,480	381	359	895	5.2	5.0	4.6
Polk	14,185	13,304	13,783	981	1,033	183	6.5	7.2	6.1
Red Lake	1,426	1,358	1,408	217	204	895	13.2	13.1	11.5
Roseau	9,033	9,062	8,451	205	281	217	2.2	3.0	2.5
REGION 2	31,569	30,086	29,813	1,778	1,953	1,765	5.3	6.1	5.6
Beltrami	16,494	15,506	15,645	841	881	816	4.9	5.4	5.0
Clearwater	3,264	3,040	3,186	317	343	329	8.9	10.1	9.4
Hubbard	7,595	7,580	6,877	423	486	414	5.3	6.0	5.7
Lake of Woods	1,945	1,978	1,881	46	59	63	2.3	2.9	3.2
Mahnomen	2,271	1,982	2,224	151	184	143	6.2	8.5	6.0
REGION 4	96,747	96,755	94,184	4,023	4,022	3,980	4.0	4.0	4.1
Becker	13,495	13,617	13,216	739	745	720	5.2	5.2	5.2
Clay	25,249	25,040	24,256	797	885	814	3.1	3.4	3.2
Douglas	14,959	15,259	15,006	664	554	593	4.3	3.5	3.8
Grant	2,838	2,791	2,675	132	136	116	4.4	4.6	4.2
Otter Tail	25,166	25,297	24,146	1,120	1,158	1,168	4.3	4.4	4.6
Pope	4,727	4,590	4,558	231	240	213	4.7	5.0	4.5
Stevens	4,931	4,808	5,087	122	86	146	2.4	1.8	2.8
Traverse	1,972	1,986	1,966	90	73	67	4.4	3.5	3.3
Wilkin	3,410	3,367	3,274	128	145	143	3.6	4.1	4.2
REGION 5	60,043	60,133	59,784	3,930	3,768	3,606	6.1	5.9	5.7
Cass	8,820	9,087	8,430	700	753	647	7.4	7.7	7.1
Crow Wing	22,265	22,363	22,597	1,138	1,058	1,143	4.9	4.5	4.8
Morrison	14,217	14,130	13,984	1,030	915	823	6.8	6.1	5.6
Todd	10,291	10,179	10,020	713	702	637	6.5	6.5	6.0
Wadena	4,450	4,374	4,753	349	340	356	7.3	7.2	7.0
REGION 6E	54,698	54,977	53,013	2,443	2,434	2,486	4.3	4.2	4.5
Kandiyohi	20,294	19,990	19,308	729	686	696	3.5	3.3	3.5
McLeod	17,153	17,440	17,052	719	747	747	4.0	4.1	4.2
Meeker	8,315	8,153	8,084	582	526	562	6.5	6.1	6.5
Renville	8,936	9,394	8,569	413	475	481	4.4	4.8	5.3
REGION 7E	51,613	51,457	50,719	3,240	3,025	2,806	5.9	5.6	5.2
Chisago	14,247	14,405	13,999	828	762	659	5.5	5.1	4.5
Isanti	12,063	12,197	11,853	683	600	592	5.4	4.7	4.8
Kanabec	5,279	5,284	5,694	518	467	456	8.9	8.1	7.4
Millie Lacs	9,691	9,590	9,482	478	472	477	4.7	4.7	4.8
Pine	10,333	9,981	9,691	733	704	622	6.6	6.6	6.0
REGION 7V	132,237	130,989	125,037	6,775	6,450	5,167	4.9	4.7	4.0
Benton	15,651	15,397	14,606	961	957	585	5.8	5.9	3.9
Sherburne	19,235	18,922	17,951	1,286	985	920	6.3	4.9	4.9
Stearns	64,355	63,308	60,059	2,876	3,012	2,362	4.3	4.5	3.8
Wright	32,996	33,362	32,421	1,652	1,486	1,300	4.8	4.3	3.9

ST. CLOUD MSA NONFARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	Employment			% Change From	
	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	81,727	79,319	78,481	3.0	4.1
Goods Producing	19,822	20,044	19,113	-1.1	3.7
Construction & Mining	4,670	4,805	4,612	-2.8	1.3
Manufacturing	15,152	15,239	14,501	-0.6	4.5
Durable Goods	8,921	8,875	8,344	0.5	6.9
Nondurable Goods	6,231	6,364	6,157	-2.1	1.2
Service Producing	61,905	59,275	59,368	4.4	4.3
Transp., Comm., & Util.	3,843	3,865	3,934	-0.6	-2.3
Trade	26,167	26,249	24,124	-0.3	8.5
Wholesale	4,056	4,183	3,645	-3.0	11.3
Retail	22,111	22,066	20,479	0.2	8.0
Finan., Insur., & Real Estate	2,415	2,444	2,410	-1.2	0.2
Services	17,293	16,745	16,264	3.3	6.3
Health	5,736	5,757	5,336	-0.4	7.5
Other Services	11,557	10,988	10,928	5.2	5.8
Government	12,187	9,972	12,636	22.2	-3.6

Unemployment Rates Generally Remain The Same As Last Month's

Labor forces grew in most areas of Central and Northwest Minnesota over the month as a result of both rising unemployment and employment. Consequently, September's unemployment rates remained similar to August's. Compared with September 1989, unemployment rates were higher in some regions and lower in others. If the economy is slowing, very little of it is showing up in the labor force data.

The St. Cloud MSA's unemployment rate was probably higher than last September's, even allowing for sampling errors in the estimating process. Nearly unchanged from August's 4.8%, September's 4.9% made it the third consecutive month that the rate has exceeded last year's by about one percentage point.

Employment in the St. Cloud MSA reached an all-time high in September (99,241), 1,614 more jobs than in August, and a whopping 6,625 more than during September 1989, or up 7.2%.

Consistent with the gain in total employment, the MSA's nonfarm payroll jobs rose 3,246 over the year despite a loss of 449 government jobs. Several industries created prodigious numbers of jobs or at least gained them rapidly. Retail trade added 1,632 jobs, an 8.0% rise. Services added 1,029, of which 629 were nonmedical jobs and 400 were health services jobs. Durable goods producing jobs rose 577 over the year.

Since August, a 2,300 gain in mostly educational jobs offset losses in other of the MSA's industries. Nondurable goods producers lost 200 jobs, and construction, wholesale trade, transportation/utilities and health services each lost 100 jobs over the month.

Northeast Minnesota



September's Unemployment Rates Are Generally Lower Than Last Year's

Although Region 3's September unemployment rate rose to 5.8% from 5.5% in August, it was lower than September 1989's 6.3%. The region's job level, although dropping from 141,237 in August to 139,547 in September, was still well above last September's 133,742. There were also slightly fewer employed in Duluth over the month, but there were more than the year before.

In Duluth, however, the unemployment rate rose over the month and year. Even so, 5.8% in September was not threateningly far above August's 4.8% and last September's 5.1%. Duluth's unemployment rate normally drops in September when students leave the job market. Still, it does not seem that Duluth's unemployment rates are on serious upward march.

Duluth's nonfarm payroll jobs increased slightly over the month (from 50,180 to 50,362), and by 2.5% over the year (from 49,141 last September). The big job-creators over the year were health services--up 472, nonhealth services--up 314, and government--up 315. Construction & mining, nondurable goods producers, and retail trade, on the other hand, dropped slightly.

Since August, Duluth gained 182 nonfarm payroll jobs. Of them, 412 were in government as schools opened. Among the job losers were construction & mining, retail trade and nonmedical services. None of the losses revealed any real slowing of the economy. Duluth's overall job level was, except for July and August, the highest since the end of 1981 when the recession began to squeeze the life out of that city's economy.

By Ron Daws

LABOR FORCE DATA									
	Employment			Unemployment			Unemp. Rate		
	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989
REGION 3	139,547	141,237	133,742	8,668	8,149	8,948	5.8	5.5	6.3
Aitkin	5,232	5,171	4,936	363	399	416	6.5	7.2	7.8
Carlton	12,175	11,885	11,559	775	758	792	6.0	6.0	6.4
Cook	3,073	3,190	2,870	106	116	90	3.3	3.5	3.0
Itasca	16,469	16,105	16,176	1,395	1,417	1,588	7.8	8.1	8.9
Koochiching	10,195	10,788	8,126	680	499	412	6.3	4.4	4.8
Lake	4,856	4,988	3,785	305	259	340	5.9	4.9	8.2
St. Louis	87,547	89,110	86,290	5,044	4,701	5,310	5.4	5.0	5.8
City of Duluth	38,008	38,686	37,462	2,122	1,932	2,015	5.3	4.8	5.1
Balance St. Louis	49,539	50,424	48,828	2,922	2,769	3,295	5.6	5.2	6.3

DULUTH & DULUTH-SUPERIOR MSA NONFARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT										
Industry	DULUTH					DULUTH-SUPERIOR				
	Employment			Percent Change		Employment			Percent Change	
	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Month Ago	Year Ago	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	50,362	50,180	49,141	0.4	2.5	96,569	96,941	96,816	-0.4	-1.3
Goods Producing	6,108	6,165	6,074	-0.9	0.6	17,776	18,170	18,117	-2.2	-1.9
Mining						5,562	5,655	5,420	-1.6	2.6
Construction	1,817	1,877	1,881	-3.2	-3.4	3,600	3,766	4,163	-4.4	-13.5
Manufacturing	4,291	4,288	4,193	0.1	2.3	8,614	8,749	8,534	-1.5	0.9
Durable Goods	1,844	1,828	1,700	0.9	8.5	4,627	4,679	4,540	-1.1	1.9
Nondurable Goods	2,447	2,460	2,493	-0.5	-1.8	3,987	4,070	3,994	-2.0	-0.2
Service Producing	44,254	44,015	43,067	0.5	2.8	78,793	78,771	78,699	0.0	0.1
Transp., Comm., & Util.	3,343	3,362	3,228	-0.6	3.6	5,971	6,028	5,944	-0.9	0.5
Trade	12,186	12,256	12,209	-0.6	-0.2	24,338	24,725	24,720	-1.6	-1.5
Wholesale	1,842	1,865	1,820	-1.2	1.2	3,900	3,920	4,009	-0.5	-2.7
Retail	10,344	10,391	10,389	-0.5	-0.4	20,438	20,805	20,711	-1.8	-1.3
Finan., Insur., & Real Estate	1,910	1,925	1,916	-0.8	-0.3	3,226	3,280	3,250	-1.6	-0.7
Service	14,783	14,852	13,997	-0.5	5.6	24,249	24,403	23,654	-0.6	2.5
Health	6,049	5,989	5,577	1.0	8.5	9,675	9,619	9,232	0.6	4.8
Other Services	8,734	8,863	8,420	-1.5	3.7	14,574	14,784	14,422	-1.4	1.1
Government	12,032	11,620	11,717	3.5	2.7	21,009	20,335	21,131	3.3	-0.6

Southern Minnesota



LABOR FORCE DATA									
	Employment			Unemployment			Unemp. Rate		
	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989
REGION 6W	23,860	23,460	23,129	806	899	798	3.3	3.7	3.3
Big Stone	2,864	2,817	2,856	80	95	107	2.7	3.3	3.6
Chippewa	6,957	6,703	6,081	247	257	212	3.4	3.7	3.4
Lac Qui Parle	3,874	3,856	3,805	145	184	121	3.6	4.6	3.1
Swift	4,553	4,539	4,714	181	181	183	3.8	3.8	3.7
Yellow Medicine	5,612	5,545	5,673	153	182	175	2.7	3.2	3.0
REGION 8	60,530	59,453	58,778	2,645	2,706	2,434	4.2	4.4	4.0
Cottonwood	5,907	5,728	5,850	652	756	284	9.9	11.7	4.6
Jackson	5,404	5,297	5,280	273	266	215	4.8	4.8	3.9
Lincoln	3,143	3,057	3,092	102	109	130	3.1	3.4	4.0
Lyon	12,543	12,322	11,560	387	379	436	3.0	3.0	3.6
Murray	4,700	4,731	4,692	195	202	235	4.0	4.1	4.8
Nobles	12,108	11,970	11,052	379	347	313	3.0	2.8	2.8
Pipestone	4,857	4,715	5,268	297	259	351	5.8	5.2	6.2
Redwood	7,318	7,178	7,488	217	245	275	2.9	3.3	3.5
Rock	4,550	4,455	4,496	143	143	195	3.0	3.1	4.2
REGION 9	112,578	111,856	107,550	4,027	3,885	3,576	3.5	3.4	3.2
Blue Earth	27,749	27,470	27,289	863	804	721	3.0	2.8	2.6
Brown	14,049	14,145	13,495	383	492	506	2.7	3.4	3.6
Faribault	8,343	8,305	7,227	303	297	282	3.5	3.5	3.8
LeSueur	12,016	11,834	10,890	628	567	541	5.0	4.6	4.7
Martin	11,317	11,494	11,176	456	420	333	3.9	3.5	2.9
Nicollet	15,148	14,996	14,897	561	503	419	3.6	3.2	2.7
Sibley	7,727	7,492	7,082	279	268	277	3.5	3.5	3.8
Waseca	10,269	10,141	9,678	377	325	318	3.5	3.1	3.2
Watsonwan	5,960	5,979	5,816	177	209	179	2.9	3.4	3.0
REGION 10	224,103	221,269	218,447	9,773	9,629	7,983	4.2	4.2	3.5
Dodge	8,440	8,233	8,561	401	354	378	4.5	4.1	4.2
Fillmore	9,458	9,108	9,387	335	404	452	3.4	4.2	4.6
Freeborn	14,922	14,433	16,272	1,716	1,866	801	10.3	11.4	4.7
Goodhue	21,632	21,496	20,242	953	788	756	4.2	3.5	3.6
Houston	9,852	9,651	9,248	273	252	335	2.7	2.5	3.5
Mower	17,971	17,564	16,251	733	701	488	3.9	3.8	2.9
Olmsted	62,834	63,330	61,505	2,162	2,072	1,872	3.3	3.2	3.0
Rice	28,011	27,741	26,477	1,020	980	987	3.5	3.4	3.6
Steele	16,640	16,459	15,927	723	611	548	4.2	3.6	3.3
Wabasha	8,544	8,695	8,697	383	357	416	4.3	3.9	4.6
Winona	25,799	24,559	25,880	1,074	1,244	950	4.0	4.8	3.5
Rochester City	39,092	39,401	38,265	1,582	1,525	1,325	3.9	3.7	3.3

Both Employment and Unemployment Rates Are Rising In Southern Minnesota

Although generally rising slightly over the year, unemployment rates in most regions remain near August's rates. The tendency in September, is however, for unemployment rates to drop when students remove themselves from the job market.

The Rochester MSA's unemployment rate, at 3.3%, has remained essentially unchanged for the last three months. A year ago September it was 3.0%, but there were more jobs this September.

Although the Rochester MSA's job level dropped somewhat since August, it remained above September's level and has been above year-ago levels during all of 1990.

Nonfarm payroll job estimates for the MSA say that the were nearly one percent more jobs than there were a month and year ago. Over the year, construction & mining lost 7.4% (196) of its jobs, government lost 2.7% (170), and transportation/communications/utilities lost 3.9% (76).

These losses were more than compensated for by the job creating industries: mainly health services--up 1.9% or 345 jobs, nonmedical services--up 4.6% or 429 jobs, and finance/insurance/real estate--up 5.3% or 85 jobs. All in all, there were 603 more nonfarm payroll jobs in the Rochester MSA this September than last September.

Over the month, the gain of 536 nonfarm jobs was basically the result of construction & mining--up 6.3% or 144 jobs, durable goods manufacturing--up 1.5% or 129 jobs, and government--up 12% or 654 jobs. Government's rise, of course, reflected the beginning of the school year. Several of the MSA's industries have lost small numbers of jobs since August, but nothing that would suggest a softening of the job market.

By Ron Dawe

ROCHESTER MSA NONFARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Industry	Employment			% Change From	
	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	65,724	65,188	65,121	0.8	0.9
Goods Producing	14,702	14,446	14,697	1.8	0.0
Construction & Mining	2,442	2,298	2,638	6.3	-7.4
Manufacturing	12,260	12,148	12,059	0.9	1.7
Durable Goods	10,082	9,953	9,934	1.3	1.5
Nondurable Goods	2,178	2,195	2,125	-0.8	2.5
Service Producing	51,022	50,742	50,424	0.6	1.2
Transp., Comm., & Util.	1,884	1,884	1,960	0.0	-3.9
Trade	12,778	12,933	12,793	-1.2	-0.1
Wholesale	1,414	1,399	1,340	1.1	5.5
Retail	11,364	11,534	11,453	-1.5	-0.8
Finan., Insur., & Real Estate	1,691	1,693	1,606	-0.1	5.3
Services	28,559	28,776	27,785	-0.8	2.8
Health	18,879	19,111	18,534	-1.2	1.9
Other Services	9,680	9,665	9,251	0.2	4.6
Government	6,110	5,456	6,280	12.0	-2.7

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449



Research & Statistics Office
390 North Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55101
(612) 296-6545

STATISTICAL REFERENCE INDEX
CONGRESSIONAL INFORMATION SERV
4520 EAST-WEST HIGHWAY
BETHESDA MD 20814

Selected Minnesota Program Statistics

**/ Inexperienced and improperly coded job applicants are not included in this table.